

# Jesus Reigns over Everything

## Part 2 – Insufficiency

### Matthew 14.13-21

#### Describing Insufficiency

- Inadequate (John 6.9)
- Overwhelmed (Luke 9.13)
- Tired (Mark 6.31)
- Called (Matthew 14.16-18)
  - Leaning in to discomfort of all of it
  - Leaning in with His sense of compassion
  - Leaning in and following His example
  - NOT setting it down and walking away

*Jesus doesn't ask for our sufficiency – He asks for our availability*

#### **Because Jesus reigns over everything:**

##### **Availability trumps insufficiency**

- If you are betting, you bet AGAINST the church every time (who can feed 5000 men with 5 loaves and 2 fish)? But you'd lose just about every time
- “What God may here after require of you, you must not give yourself the least trouble about. Everything He gives you to do, you must do as well as ever you can, and that is the best possible preparation for what He may want you to do next. If people would but do what they have to do, they would always find themselves ready for what came next.” ~ George MacDonald
- “Are you dreading something that you think is coming next? The way to prepare for that is simply to do what you have to do now.” ~ Elisabeth Elliot

*Jesus doesn't ask for our sufficiency – He asks for our availability*

##### **Availability trumps brokenness**

- Broken by circumstances
- Broken by time – long haul, no more honeymoon
- Broken by weariness
- Tozer – God never uses anyone greatly until He tests them deeply

*Jesus doesn't ask for our sufficiency – He asks for our availability*

#### Keep yourself available

- Availability is my invitation to God to do something in my life and through my life, to write me into the story He is telling, the drama that is unfolding

Questions for Discussion:

1. Based on the most recent season of your life (Harvey-related or not), which of the following do you most identify with: inadequate, overwhelmed, or tired? Why?
2. Reread the passage in Matthew 14. Why do you think Jesus didn't let them off the hook? Read the passage in John 6. It says that He knew what He was going to do, so why not let them in on His plan? Can you think of examples in your life when God was up to something behind your back but didn't let you know?
3. Since our availability trumps our insufficiency, what is one next step you need to take in your life right now? What would availability look like in that step?
4. Since our availability trumps our brokenness, what is something that has been holding you back from making yourself available to God? How have you been used before despite your brokenness? How might God use your brokenness to minister (see 2 Corinthians 1.2-4)?